STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1-23. (Previously canceled)

24. (Previously added) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or a nucleotide sequence complementary to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

25. (Previously added) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

26. (Previously added) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and a heterologous polypeptide.

27. (Previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 24, further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

28. (Previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

29. (Presently amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~3~~ 26, further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

30. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 24.

31. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 25.

32. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 26.

33. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 27.

34. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 28.

35. (Previously added) A host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29.

36. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 30 which is a mammalian cell.

37. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 31 which is a mammalian cell.

38. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 32 which is a mammalian cell.

39. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 33 which is a mammalian cell

40. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 34 which is a mammalian cell

41. (Previously added) The host cell of claim 35 which is a mammalian cell

42. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 30 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

43. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 31 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

44. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 32 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

45. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 33 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

46. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 34 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

47. (Presently added) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 35 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.